

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



10/534561



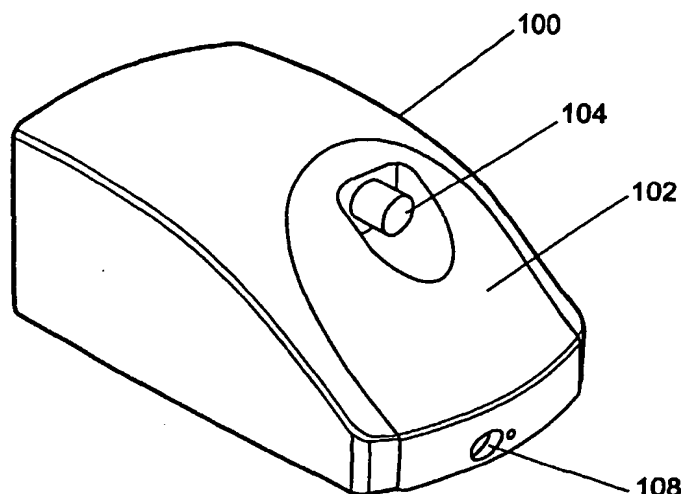
(43) International Publication Date
27 May 2004 (27.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/043528 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: A61M 16/16 (74) Agents: ADAMS, Matthew, D. et al.; A J Park, 6th Floor Huddart Parker Building, P. O. Box 949, 6015 Wellington (NZ).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/NZ2003/000243 (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date: 29 October 2003 (29.10.2003) (81) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
522577 12 November 2002 (12.11.2002) NZ
528536 26 September 2003 (26.09.2003) NZ
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- Published:
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: BREATHING ASSISTANCE APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: The present invention may include an integral, separable or separate humidifier (100) which may be selectively configured to an inoperative or operative state. The switch over is dependent on the user or the seller having access to an actuation tool to activate the humidifier. The Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) device is initially available for use as a standalone CPAP (100). The heater plate being isolated by a covering shroud (102), the shroud (102) also forms a connection port for the CPAP blower outlet (104). The heated humidification hardware being disabled by the absence of the activation tool. Upgrade to a CPAP device including heated humidification is completed by the installation of the actuation tool. Removal of the heater plate

isolating shroud and/or installing the actuation tool enables the software controlled heated humidification hardware for heated humidifier operation. Other upgrades to functionality are also disclosed.

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